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ONE DOLLAR A-YEAR.

## The General Assembly.

THE COLLEGE AND CITADEL.

A Narrow Escape from Reduction in the Appropriations.

In the House, Mr. L. J. Williams moved to make the South Carolina College appropriation \$20,000 instead of \$25,000. The ayes and noes were demanded on a motion to table this amendment, which was lost by a vote

Mr. Patton said it was unfortunate that these fights were renewed year after year. He was only prodding the gontleman from Edgefield a little with his own pitchfork when he referred to the continued fights. Williams accepted Mr. Otts amendment and the ayes and noes were demanded on the question, resulting in the rejection of the amendment by a vote of 67 to 32.

the continued fights.
Mr. Patton said the only thing was mr. Fatton said the only thing was that the appropriation bill was to cover a period of 14 months. That was why \$25,000 was in there. To cut this to \$20,000 was to take the institution from the plane on which the Governor and other State officers and all others. and other State officers and all other State concerns were placed. At the South Carolina College over one-half of the students were farmers' sons. Clemson was given \$100,000 to do as reference to the \$6,000 for reimbursing reference to the \$6,000 for reimbursing to the Atlanta Exposition. she pleased with. There were 300 students there. At the South Carolina College there were 183 students, and follows: only \$25,000 was asked. Clemson was given \$114,000 this year. When sho got on her feet they would begin to got on her feet they would begin to pull her down. He hoped Clemson and all these colleges would be given every cont they needed for current expenses. The professors had taught two months for nothing so far. The contract was there. Were they going to repudiate their contract? Hadn't they just donated to the Governor \$6,000 without any contract? He did not care to enter into the merits of the college. Beter into the merits of the college. Behead it, but do not starve it to death.

paid about four times as much as the al's opinion.

Professors of the denominational col
He then denied that the Governor's

first thought it best to take last year's fair an appropriation, they would not figures, which would have given \$29,-000. The committee had finally, how-it to the fair would be a donation to a

Yeas-Ashley, Blackwell, Bowman,

Bramlett, Brown, Caughman, Connor, tution. We are now asked to pay out

Johnston, Kennedy, Lesesne, Love, Magill, Manning, Mehrtens, Mellard, Mellett, Mitchell, J. W., McKeown, McLaurin, J. F., Patton, Phillips. Pickens, Pollock, Price, Pyatt, Rainsford, Robertson, Saunders, J. G., Shuman Chinnes Thomas Themas man, Skinner, Sturkie, Thomas, Town-send, Tyler, Wallace, Welch, Weston, Williams, T. S., Williamson, Wilson, Wyche, Wyman-63.

Mr. L. J. Williams moved to make the appropriation for the Citadel only buy the exhibit for its cash value. Academy \$15,000 instead of \$21,000. He thought it wise that the State The State, he said, had sixty-eight should have such an exhibit. But the beneficiaries there, making \$285 each. thing had If denominational educational institu- wrongly; he thought that they should tions can educate a boy by an amount 31 times less, why should the State pay The only way to get out of the muddle

Mr. Otts moved to strike out \$15,000 justice to both parties.

Mr. Skinner was in favor of the apand insert \$18,000. which was rejected by a large major-

two extra months to be considered and no legal or constitutional questions inthat most of the money had been spent volved. in the subsistence of the cadets If the appropriation is not put at \$21,000, it would simply result in the closing of the institution two months earlier than usual. Only \$5,400 of the appropriation went to salaries, the rest going to the support of the beneficiaries and other necessary expenses. He spoke of the glorious record of the institution, and appealed to members not to

cripple the institution. sentiment governed the House—that to come to the rescue of the State at a is, sentiment and women-they always | most critical juncture. He made a hiswin. He did not think the members torical reference to Napoleon at the could justify themselves in the course | battle of Waterloo.

Mr. Ilderton said that if the House refused to cut the South Carolina Col- hibit at the Exposition-something lege, why should the House cut down that the people got the benefit of. It the Citadel? He proposed to vote for was not an appropriation to benefit the Citadel appropriation as a matter John Gary Evans at all. The honor of of justice, to keep it on the same plane the State was at stake. In the past as other institutions. He did not pro- few weeks men were coming to the pose to slam into the teeth of the peo-

Mr. Crum said the friends of the poor man seemed to be cutting his ing power of South Carolina, and we throat. This institution was the only one in the State where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and of the state where a poor boy and state without a cent and of the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and of the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and of the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and of the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where a poor boy could go absolutely without a cent and the state where the state wh

Mr. Warr said he couldn't under an extract from a long letter from Mr. success. It is a sterping stone to pro- entitled to pensions would have to walt and associations.

get anything.

Mr. Garris said the ways and means committee had sought to reach the to know what the cost of the exhibit was. He wanted to know if it was not stated in Mr. owest possible figure to run the institution, and he believed the institution would receive magnanimous treatment in view of the fact that every other institution in the State was north of Columbia. The battle for this institution was made several days ago and it

be voted, and he called for the previous question.

Mr. Williams accepted Mr. Otts'

### BUYING THE STATE EXHIBIT.

Governor Evans Will Not Have to Pay for the State's Display at the Atlanta Exposition.

the outlay for the Atlanta Exposition. Judge Townsend moved to amend as

head it, but do not starve it to death.

Mr. Sturkie said he had voted to cut the appropriation down, but since learning that the amount was for 14 months, he was willing to give the college \$25,000.

Mr. L. J. Williams contrasted the expenses of the maintenance of the denominational colleges with those of the South Carolina College. The South Carolina College professors were being paid about four times as much as the

leges for the amount of work done.

Mr. Thomas explained the position of the committee. The committee first thought it best to take last year's ever, made a cut of 30 per cent. against the protest of a number of the members. He then proceeded to make an every first purpose. This was expending money for a purpose other than a private purpose. Mr. Clark, the chairman vate purpose.

bers. He then proceeded to make an earnest plea for the college.

Mr. Pollock said it seemed to him that there were some members there determined to cut everything that came up. He spoke very earnestly in behalf of the college.

Mr. Ellerbe said that it was simply absolutely impossible to run the South Carolina College on \$20,000. They had Carolina College on \$20,000. They had to pay the South Carolina College professors decent salaries or they would leave.

A direct vote was then taken on Ma A direct vote was then taken on Mr. Williams' amendment, and it was killed by the following vote.

This body reliable to little will be in the control of th a contract invalid under the old consti-J. B., Finklea, Fowler, Goodwin, Hammett, Harvey, Holloway, Hough, Ilderton, Leverett, Miles, Mishoe, Moore, Murray, McIntosh, Nunnery, Prince, Rowland, Tatum, Thompson, Todd, Thurmond, Warr, Watson, Whitmice, Williams, L. J., Williams, Fred, Wolff—34.

Navs—Adams, Bacot, Barkley, Breas, Warrended to have this money not authorized by law. Mr. Williams said that all his sentiments in this matter were in favor of giving this money, but he could not vote for an executive appropriation—for twist it as they may that was all there was in it. There had now been about \$80,-000 of this kind of appropriations. He

Nays-Adams, Bacot, Barkley, Brea- wanted to have this money paid. He zoale, Breeland, Burns, Carroll, Car- wanted to pay an individual to buy this rothers, Cooper, Crum, Devereux, Do- matter. He wanted to have such measthage, Eadens, Earle, Elder, Ellerbe, ures introduced, but no committee Gadsden, Garris, Gregory, Hardy, Harper, Hiott, Hollis, Hunter, Humphrey, wouldn't because they said it would be

> Mr. Ilderton had given the matter considerable thought. It was a doubt in his mind whether they could do this or not. There was no authority for the executive appropriation. They could been done-rightly or make the purchase for its actual value. was to purchase it. He wanted to do

Mr. Williams moved to table this, propriation. There was no misunderstanding between Governor Evans and Mr. Thomas, in speaking on the matter, alluded to the fact that there were propriation was not made. There were

> Mr. Williams-Why, then, was a joint resolution passed to purchase the Wallace property before the approprition was made?

Mr. Skinner-That was to purchase property.
Mr. Williams—Well, isn't this a pur-

chase of property you are now trying to make? (Laughter.) Mr. Skinner continued to urgo the necessity which rested upon the Gov-Mr. Williams said that he found that ernor in the matter, and of his having

Mr. Watson said this was simply a proposition to pay for the State's ex-State as a result of the exhibit at Atple of Charleston that one institution lanta. He wanted the appropriation should be supported and the other cut made if there was only \$100 worth of down.

made if there was only \$100 worth of exhibits returned to the State. Mr. Watson said: "We are the law-mak-

get an education, and its graduates tion was clearly constitutional. If they were doing a grand work. It was run had passed a preliminary resolution on the most economical plan, and he that would have made no difference, as would be compelled to vote for the ap- they sould not give themselves more

to know if it was not stated in Mr.

ing any executive appropriations. It was not right and nothing could make it right. The Governor he did not wish to see suffer, but the Governor must take the consequences of his own act.

give the money,
Mr. Patton said that he could not vote for this appropriation. He had not changed his opinion as to the unconstitutionality of the appropriation. He regarded himself as oath-bound not to vote for this appropriation. It was simply this: That they could not appropriate to pay any back claim not authorized by law; they were the judges of the way the people's money should be spont. Mr. Patton, when he been abused? he exhibit was the State's property

already. Mr. Townsend then accepted Mr. Ilderton's amendment and the previous question was thereupon called. The amendment was then adopted. Mr. Hammett offered an amendment

that hereafter no claim should be paid unless specially authorized by law. This was ruled out of order. The \$6,000 appropriation was then clinched.

THE DISPENSARY AMENDMENT.

The House Refuses to Pass the Law to Restrict the Sale of Liquor.

The bill to amend the Dispensary law by restricting the sale of liquor only for mechanical, scientific, medicinal or sacramental purposes, was next read. The bill is that introduced by Mr. Whitmire by request of the Gospel Temperance Union. Mr. Tatum moved to strike out the energing words to strike out the enacting words.

Mr. Whitmire said the bill did not antagonize the Dispensary law, but simply wanted to take out the profit

and beverage features. A great many members of this House were elected on a strict prohibition platform. At the time the law was enacted it was understood that its purpose was to lessen the evils of drink. We don't need Dispensary money for schools. We don't want any blood money. We were told it was but a step towards prohibition and it was now the time to take that step. The Liquor Commissioner's report all through calls for more facilireport all through calls for more facili-ties for selling liquor. That isn't what we want. Every citizen is a partner in this business and he for one didn't want to be in it. He had been informed too that the law was not being en-

Mr. Hough said that he would sustain the bill to the best of his ability. It was simply a question of right or wrong as far as the sale of whiskey is concerned. He had voted against the Dispensary, was against it now, and intended to die against it. They say it is an improvement on the barroom, out you can't improve whiskey or whiskey selling whatever you do with it. If there was no profit in the Dispensary would you keep it up? If you take the profit out it wouldn't last three months. With the same strength and same force the Dispensary has prohibition could be enforced much better than the Dispensary system is. It is not right from a moral standpoint. Who do you bleed to get your revenue? The poor unfortunate women and children of South Carolina. This was the last speech he would ever make and he wanted the last words he uttered here be for prohibition. We had passed prohibition law but it went out of this House a white cat and came back a black cat.

Mr. Johnson of Pickens said he felt that he would be untrue to "his God and conscience" did not he raise his voice in defense of this measure. Our people by a large majority in 1892 de-clared for prohibition and representatives were sent here to carry that will into effect, but instead they enacted the Dispensary law. He then believed that it was but a stop towards probibition. Since coming to Columbia and seeing what he has seen he has come to the conclusion that the law was not what the people believed it would be. He saw crowds drinking, drunk and cursing on the streets. The law has been so lax in its enforcement that soon it will be little better than the barroom system. What is the difference between a blind tiger and a Dispensary backed up by the State when a man can walk in, buy whiskey without signing any pledge or being asked any questions? Another alarming feature is the responsibility thrown around the Dispensaries. Men go in now and buy whiskey who never did so before, because it was a disgrace to go into a barroom and buy whiskey. We have a question before us that not only endangers the lives and welfare of our people, but threatens the damnation of their eternal souls. Governor Evans and all the other bright lights have failed to solve this question; therefore turn it over to the Christian people of

Mr. Blackwell said that he did not believe that the people had voted for prohibition in 1892, as it has been construed on this floor. He did not believe that today the sentiment of the State favored the total abolition of whiskey, because prohibition or no prohibition four-fifths of the people are going to have whiskey. He asked Mr. Johnson if he had done his duty in not reporting the violation of the law he

had seen in Columbia. Mr. Johnson said he had reported i to the Governor.

stand how one institution could get \$174,000 (Clemson) and another couldn't stating that the exhibit was worth the get anything.

W. A. Clark, of the finance committee, hibition, but that will not come until the present generation arrives at manhood. It was the best whiskey law we get anything.

Mr. Thomas suggested that the difference committee, hibition, but that will not come until the present generation arrives at manhood. It was the best whiskey law we ever had, and he wanted to let good

onough alone.
Mr. L. J. Williams said the prohibi-Clark's letter that a large number of the exhibits were contributed.

Mr. Thurmond answered that the contributions were given to the Governor, and not to the State. He said there could be no constitutional question.

Mr. Tatum was heretofore against the appropriation, but was now in favor of it.

Mr. L. J. Williams said the prohibitionists took no heed of expediency but wanted to take the people by the throat and make them stop. The barkeeper joins him because he knows success means either open barrooms or open blind tigers. If you pull a green watermelon and eat it you will get sick.

Mr. Plekens said that enough had been said to a barrooms to make the prohibitionists took no heed of expediency but wanted to take the people by the throat and make them stop. The barkeeper joins him because he knows success means either open barrooms or open blind tigers. If you pull a green watermelon and eat it you will get sick.

favor of it.

Mr. Blackwell was opposed to paying the money, not because he was opposed to the Governor, or because of any constitutional question, but he did not want the precedent established of making any executive appropriations. It is said prohibition does not prohibit, but neither does the law

If it was the sentiment of the people why didn't the people send him the money to pay the bills? The representatives of the people had refused to give the money. Mr. Watson said he had been watchand almost the invariable result was that there was not actually any prohi-bition in them. He had watched the Dispensary law also, and he could tes-tify that never has there been so little drunkenness in the State. It is the best law we ever had and it is the duty of every Christian to see that all violators of it are brought to justice. No honest man can deny that it is an improvement on the old barroom law. Mr. Warr started off by asking

heard Mr. Ilderton's amendment read, said that it was perfectly constitutional. He wanted to know how much of any other man, and he would say that

whether the Dispensary law had not

it isn't abused.

Mr. Warr. "Then my eyes fool me mighty bad. Last Sunday I saw Dispensary No. 10, in Charleston, open." He went on to argue that the bill should be amended and these abuses remedied. The whole thing is being run for profit and it's horrible to think about it. The ayes and noes were demanded on

the motion to strike out the enacting words of the bill, which resulted in the rejection of the bill by a vote of 63 to

Those who voted for the bill are:
Ashley, Bacot, Bramlett, Dothage,
Gadsden, Hollis, Hough, Johnson, Lovcrett, Lofton, Manning, Mehrtens,
Mellett, McIntosh, Pickens, Prince,
Pyatt, Sanders, Saunders, Warr,
Whitmire, Williamson, Wilson.

Any Pickelmell made are consistent.

Mr. Patton explained the broad scope of the amendment, which was simply to give the money for premiums.

Mr. Ilderton was against the amendment, speaking vigorously against it.
The House should not undo its action already taken.

### LEGISLATIVE NEWS AND NOTES.

Various Matters in the Progress of Events Likely to Go Through.

The following summary of legislation on various topics, as the session is drawing to a close, will give an idea of what is likely to become laws:

REDUCING PASSENGER RATES. In the Senate Mr. Mayfield moved to take up the bill fixing railroad rates for transportation of passengers, which was done. The bill makes first class fare 3 cents per mile, and 21-2 cents Mr. Buist moved the adoption of the

infavorable report. Mr. Norris moved to table this mo-

Mr. Buist said he had taken some pains to look into this matter and he was convinced this measure would work a hardship to many railroads. He did not represent the roads, but he wanted to do his whole duty as a from Richland and Charleston that citizen and as a representative of the people. He read a number of figures which he said were absolutely correct and only confirmed his belief that this s not the time to reduce the fare.

Mr. Norris appreciated very full the excellent service the railroads are giving the people. He said some of these roads charge 3 1 in North Carolina and 3 in Georgia and yet in South Carolina we must pay 31 cents a mile. He said it was an open question whether the increased travel, when cheap rates prevailed, would not bring more money to the roads than the present rate.

Mr. Sloan said the committee at first eported favorably on the bill but after the railroads had been heard, the committee were convinced that the motion to concur in the House amendthey rescinded their former action and made an unfavorable report. He had become convinced we should let this thing alone and let the com-

missioners settle the question. Mr. Mayfield said he hoped the unavorable report would not be adopted. He answered the argument that North Carolina gives cheaper fare because the sections are more densely sottled. He said the roads went through no better sections in Georgia and North Carolina than in South Carolina. He favored making it a

uniform rate of 3 cents a mile... Mr. Watson agreed with the senior Senator in this matter. He was fully convinced after hearing the representatives of the roads, that we could not fully reduce the rates.

Mr. Finley had heard these arguments for six years, but had never been convinced that the railroads were too poor to stand the reduction. He said the roads are already carrying passengers for 2 1 cents a mile, as shown by the issuance of 1,000 mile tickets.

Mr. Finley said it is argued that the railroad commissioners can manage this question—but they have not been doing it. He moved to lay Mr. Buist's motion on the table. This was withdrawn and the vote taken directly on the adoption of the unfavorable report. The vote resulted as follows:

Yeas-Barnwell, Brice, Buist, Dennis, Douglass, Moses, McDaniel, Ragin, Verdier, Walker, Watson, Williams.-13.

Nays.—Archer, Barton, Derham, DuBose, Finley, Fuller, Harrison, May-field, Miller, McCalla, Norris, O'Dell, Stackhouse, Stribling—14.
Having refused to adopt the unfavorable report, the Senate then passed the bill.

CONFEDERATE PENSIONS. When the pension bill was reached in the House, Mr. Fowler moved to reconsider the amendment requiring Mr. Blackwell went on to say that Monday in April. He said that under power than they already had. He read | the Dispensary law had been a great | this a number of widows who will be of policies by fire insurance companies

Mr. Thomas suggested that the dlf-ficulty could be obviated by saying "first Monday in April or as soon thereafter as possible." Judge Townsend moved to make it read "on the first Monday in April after the year 1896." This was agreed to and the effect is to allow all pensioners to obtain the benefits of the appropriation this year. Mr. Fred Williams offered an amendment to strike out all requirements as to income. If any soldier had an in-come he worked for it.

Mr. Thomas interrupting Mr. L. J. Williams, asked whether it was the speaker's idea that even if a man had \$20,000 or \$100,000 he should also receive a pension.

Mr. McSweeny moved to amend so as to allow the widow who is 55 years old to receive a pension, instead of 60 years as the bill provided. This was voted down by a large majority.

The bill provides for pensions of \$4, \$6 and \$8 a month each. All soldiers, and widows of soldiers, over 60 years of age, who are not enjoying an annual gross income of \$100 from any source get \$4 a month.

All old soldiers and sailors who have lost one arm or one leg, or who received other bolily injury whereby they have become disabled, will get \$6 a month. All old soldiers and sailors who have

lost both arms or both legs or sight, or who are physically helpless, and childron of deceased soldiers and sallors under 12 years of age and destitute, will receive \$8 a month.

And all old soldiers and sailors shall be exempt from road duty and the payment of any commutation tax. The act become effective on July 30, 1896.

THE STATE FAIR AGAIN. Mr. Patton then offered a substitute for the paragraph making the appro-priation of \$2,500 for the State fair, which was the same as that introduced few days ago except that it changed the amount to \$2,400.

Mr. Ashley moved to table it. He hoped it would be done, too, without any talk.

already taken. Mr. Blackwell made an earnest ap-

peal to the House to make this appropriation. He took the House to task pretty severely for reversing its action and paying the \$6,000 for the Atlanta exposition in the morning. Where was the consistency?

The roll call was demanded, and on a direct vote the House agreed to the amendment by a vote of 51 to 41.

Mr. Otte moved to adjourn

a direct vote the House agreed to the amendment by a vote of 51 to 41.

Mr. Otts moved to adjourn.

Mr. Sturkle said the object of this motion to adjourn was to defeat the appropriation thus made.

A division was demanded on the motion to adjourn. The House refused to among his quaintest and best efforts.

Of his appearance all that is presented.

In later years his writings and lecturing brought an income of over \$20,000 a year, and he leaves a moderate fortune to his widow and children.

Some of the experiences of his life on his famous "Buck Snoal" farm are among his quaintest and best efforts.

appropriation by a vote of 52 to 45.

THE INSURANCE BILL. The insurance bill then came up and McCalla moved concurrence in

the House amendments. Mr. Barnwoll asked that the Senate insist upon its amendments, urging that it could not damage or weaken the bill, and was due to the Senators their cities be excepted if they desired. It would only affect those places and he hoped they would be allowed to be excepted if they desired

it.
Mr. Finley did not think the large cities should be exempted from general law.

Mr. Sloan agreed with Mr. Barnwell and argued that the cities be allowed to exemption if they thought it best for them.

Mr. McCalla urged that the in surance men would reduce the rates in the cities and used that as an argument against the law in the State at large. He was opposed to exempting certain sections from the provisions of a general law and insisted upon his coads were losing money, therefore ments. The roll then being called the amendments were concurred in by a vote of 15 to 14, as follows.

Yeav—Archer, Barton, Brier, Du-Bose, Finley, Fuller, Harrison, Jordan, Mayfield, McCalla, McLaniel, Norris, D'Dell, Ragin, Stackhouse,-15. Nays-Barnwell, Buist, Dennis, Der ham, Douglass, Efird, Mauldin, Miller, Moses, Mower, Sloan, Stribling, Ver-

dier, Williams-14. PASSED BY THE HOUSE. The following bills were read the hird time and ordered to be sent to

the Senate: Joint resolution to provide for the payment of the expenses of the penitentiary investigation. A bill to provide for the incorporation of towns of less than one thousand nor more than

A bill to authorize all cities and ights, and to issue bonds to meet the

cost of same.

A bill to authorize and empower the mount of three thousand five hundred lollars for the purpse of taking up onds of said city which will become lue in 1896. A joint resolution to authorize and

equire the State Treasurer to repay noney borrowed under a Convention ordinance. A bill to render 'it punishable under ertain conditions in certain localities

A bill to amend Sections 939, 940, 950 and 951 of the Revised Statutes of 1893, relating to pensions. A bill relating to the adoption of children.

to fail to have a lawful fence.

A bill to incorporate the Epworth Orphanage.
The bill to amend the law providing for the selection of a public printer and to regulate the awarding of con-

tracts for public printing. The bill to require manufacturers and dealers in tobacco, eigars and the payment of pensions on the first cigarettes to obtain a special permit. The Senate bill to regulate the issue

#### THE DEATH OF BILL NYE.

The Great Humorist is Laid to Rest in the Mountains of Western North Carolina.

The death of Bill Nyo, the celebrated humorist, which occured on the 22nd of February, is lamented throughout

tracts which were said to have been copied from a paper published at Laramie, Wyoming, the name of which was alleged to be The Boomerang. The sketches were unique and most amusing, but for a long time many of those who enjoyed the humor of them were very doubtful about the existence of a newspaper with such a seemingly absurd name. However, it began to be understood that a new humorist had arisen and was located on the windy uplands of the northwest, on the windy uplands of the northwest, and that his newspaper. The Boom-orang, as well as his humor, was genuine.

Of course it was asked who this genius of humor of the Wyoming uplands was, and the papers began to circulate a rumor that his name was Bill Nyc, and that he was a relative of a man who had won great repute, not only as a statesman, but as a fun lover and maker, the late United States Senator. "Jim" Nye. Of course every one wondered whether the Bill Nye who was writing, with that spontaneity which is the basis of all genuine humor, the Boomerang sketches was also the Bill Nye whom Brot Harte had immortalized in his "Heathen Chinee." Harte's celebrity had before this been supposed to be a myth, a creature of his fancy; but myth, a creature of his fancy; but myth, a creature of his lancy; but there were many persons in the east who felt sure that Bill Nye of the poem and the Bill Nye of The Boomerang could be no other than one and the same person.

It was not many months before the public knew that Bill Nye was a nom de plume, and that this genius of humor was baptized Edgar Wilson

Nye.
The Boomerang was quoted all over the country, and Nye began to get his reputation as a humorist of note at that time. The paper was not a financial success, but it was the founda-tion for the fortune which Nye afterward made as humorist.

Like many humorists, Mr. Nye was a man of almost womanly gentleness of disposition. His amiability was never clouded, and his good humor was as spontaneous as it was goodnatured. He never forgot a friend. In later years his writings and leature

adjourn by a vote of 43 to 51.

Mr. Patton moved to put on the clincher. The ayes and noes were demanded and the House clinched the woman or child who reads newspapers who does not know them. Perhaps the most fameus of his humorous vritings was the letter to the president of the United States accepting the postmastership at Laramie City. That letter was commented upon in seriousness by the London Times, and the comment was perhaps as funny as the original letter, when all the circumstances are taken in consideration.

Mr. Nye, unlike most writers of his kind, had excellent business qualifications. He was a "thrifty humorist, as one of his friends expressed it When he began to write his sketches for the Boomerang he had no idea that they would be of more than local interest, nor in fact did he realize the humor that was in them or its market value. He simply reported things in Laramie as he saw them, not understanding that his mental vision and his capacity to reproduce it on paper was of such peculiar nature as would gain for him fame, would create in the popular mind a demand for a constant supply of it, and would therefore have

Mr. Nye personally was a most lovable man. He was genial and kind-hearted, with not the slightest suggestion of conceit or "uppishness in his manner. Few men have had more or better friends than he had.

No man was ever more modest and unassuming. It is no injustice to him to say that much of his success as a writer was due to the ambition and encouragement of his wife. Long before the world knew him she had told him of his powers and applauded hold her praise until the flood of his success came, but in the dark days when there was an actual struggle for strength and an inspiration, her faith in him never faltering.

-A Washington special says: "Peo-ple who knew Frances Folsom as a slight young schoolgirl and have not enjoyed the privilege of seeing her since, are altogether not prepared for towns to build, equip and operate a since, are altogether not prepared for system of water works and electric the development which has taken place since her marriage. Mrs. Cleveand has acquired additional weight A bill to authorize and empower the almost imperceptibly, but none the sity of Laurens to issue bonds to the less surely. It does not detract in the slightest degree from her charming presence, and many of her friends believe that, with her carriage, the added weight was almost necessary. Some of Mrs. Cleveland's most intimate friends have been particularly curious of late to know how much she actually weighed, but they were not altogethe prepared for the statement she made the other day to one of her friends that she now tipped the scales at exactly 196 pounds.

> -The engineer corps of the Ohio River and Charleston Railroad, under the direction of Chief Engineer Molesworth, are now making a survey of the Blacksburg to Spartanburg, by the ruins—head, hands, and feet burned off large cotton mills of Cherokee Falls, and body burned to a crisp. The Gaffney's, Glendale, Clifton, etc. It is coroner's jury returned a verdict of thought, that, owing to the feasibility death by mischance. and cheapness of the route and the The origin of the immense amount of freight which it promises to the O. R. & C. Road, the owners of the latter will have the road soon as the line is located.

LOOK OUT FOR THE COMET.

Perrine's Discovery Seems to be Coming Straight Towards the Earth

Perrine's comet is advancing toward the earth at the predigious pace of 1,600,000 miles a day and unless it changes it course it may hit the earth of February, is lamented throughout the country. The physicians states that his patient had been in failing health for three years, and he was not surprised at the fatal termination of the malady. He was buried twelve miles south of Asheville, N. C., near Fletcher's.

About fifteen years ago there began to appear in different newspapers extracts which were said to have been copied from a paper published at of a unit in his figures the came time during. Saturday, March 14. Professor Lenschuer, of the State University of California, has just completed his calculations of the orbit of the new comet, which was discovered by Astronomer Porrine, of the Lick University. His calculation convince him that the comet will take a new course on March 1 and sheer away from the earth. If, however, the professor has made a mistake of a millionth part of a unit in his figures the comet may

Strike us.

Professor Pickering, of the Harvard
Observatory, was seen by a Sun reporter and asked if it were possible for
the comet and the earth to meet in collision. His reply was that such a thing was certainly possible. "Comets," he said, "have no special relation to the earth, and if the earth happened to be in the path of one it would of course be struck. I am not prepared to say what would happen. No one knows. You see we have no record of knows. You see we have no record of any such experience. The only man who dares to say much on the subject is Professor C. A. Young, of Princeton, and I'll give you his opinion on the

and I'll give you his opinion on the subject, because he has given that line more attention than I have.

"Professor Young's opinion is that a comet is nothing but a 'sand bank;' that is, it is a swarm of solid particles of unknown size and widely separate." of unknown size and widely separate, say pin heads, several hundred feet apart, each particle carrying with it an envelope of gas largely hydrocarbon, in which gaslight is produced, either by electrical discharges between the evolving action due to the sun's influence. This hypothesis derives its chief plausibility from the modern discovery of the close relationship between meteors and comets.

"Professor! Young says that comets may hurt us in two ways, either by actually striking the earth, or by falling into the sun, and thus producing such an increase of solar heat as to

burn us up."

In regard to the possibility of a collision with a comet, Professor Pickering said that it was to be admitted that such an event was possible. "In fact," he continued, "if the earth lasts long enough such a thing is practically sure to happen, for there are several comets' orbits which pass near to the earth's orbit, than the semi-diameter of the comet's head, and at some time the earth and comet will certainly come together. Such encounters will, however, be rare. If we accept the estimate of Babinet they will occur once in fifteen millions of years in the long run."

As to the consequence of such a collision, Professor Pickering said it was impossible to estimate for want of sure knowledge of the state of aggregation of the matter composing a comet. "If we accept the modern theory," he said, "and if this theory be true, everything depends on the size of the separate solid particles which of the separate solid particles which form the main part of the comet's mass.
If they weigh tons the bombardment would be very serious, but if, as seems more likely, the particles are smaller than pin heads, the result would be

simply a grand meteoric shower.
"Now," continued the professor,
"although the possibility of that comet striking the earth is real, still the probability is not so great. So far as we know the probability is not much greater than that of some other comets striking us. At the Harvard Observatory here we have not yet had the three good observations which are required befor we can make any computation.

"This is for the reason that so many other observatories are watching comets that we devote our time to things which they cannot do so well as we can. Of course, if the time comes when we are in a position where our observations will count for much we shall devote our energies to them."-New York Sun.

SERIOUS FIRE AT FLORENCE.

Heavy Losses in Buildings and, Goods-One Man Burnt to Death. Special to the State.

FLORENCE, Feb. 27.—Florence sents a gloomy appearance today. The very heart of the business portion of the city is in ashes and mon, women and children have all day been silently viewing what yesterday was a group of handsome brick buildings, now s mass of black and charred ruins.

The fire alarm sounded about 4:10. flames having been seen coming from his early efforts. She did not with- the rear of the Ellis block of buildings on the north side of Evans street, imsuccess came, but in the dark days mediately adjoining the Central hotel. when there was an actual struggle for This block, the property of Mr. O. S. existence she stood by him, a tower of Ellis, is two stories in height, the first floor used as stores, the upper as offices and private rooms. the fire department responded promptly and the citizens turned out on masse, the flames spread rapidly to-wards the east, taking in two smaller brick stores and the large 3-story building on the corner; thence up Dargan street, taking in two other brick buildings, the last five all the property of Dr. F. U. Lake. The fire did not cross the street and the Central hotel, by heroic efforts, was saved. Water ruined the plastering in the western half of this building, the timbers supporting the tin roof were charred by the heat and furniture in some of the rooms was blistered. Masses of brick and ashes show where

the other buildings stood.

The total actual loss is variously estimated at from \$50,000 to \$100,000 and total amount of insurance involved, including Central hotel, is about \$70,000.

There was but one fatality, but it is a sud one. George Williams of Darlington, a printer, who was visiting here at the time and occupying a room in the Ellis building, was overtaken worth, are now making a survey of the by the flames and, later in the day, his proposed route for a branch road from charred body was dragged from the

The origin of the fire is not known

-The naked are light is one of the most deadly enemies of bacteria, and built and work will be begun on it as on that account is being largely used